IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

John D. WINTER, et al.

Appl. No.: To be Assigned

Divisional of S.N. 09/467,384

Filed: February 13, 2001

For: System for Withdrawing and

Dewatering Slag from Gasification Equipment (as

amended)

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 06950.0167.DVUS01

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to prosecution of the above-identified application, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks.

Amendments

In the Title:

Change the title to read:

--System for Withdrawing and Dewatering Slag from Gasification Equipment--.

In the Claims:

Delete claims 1-107 and 122-146 in the application.

Remarks

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Bell (Reg. No. 39,604)

Date: February 13, 2001

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP Box No. 34 1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004-2402 (202) 783-0800